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*Rules and Regulations for the Award of
Prizes in Oratory Offered to Texas
Colleges and Normal Schools*



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PRIZES IN ORATORY FOR TEXAS COLLEGES AND NORMAL SCHOOLS

The Organization for the enlargement by the State of Texas of its Institutions of Higher Education (commonly known as the Hogg Organization) has decided to renew its offer of \$200 in prizes for a state oratorical contest to be held in April, 1914. The Texas State Intercollegiate Peace Association will also conduct district and final contests for the public discussion of topics relative to the Peace Problem. A State prize of \$75 is offered in connection with the latter contest, and it is hoped that other prizes may be secured. The rules that follow apply equally to both the Hogg and the Peace contests unless otherwise specified. Inquiries regarding these contests should be addressed to

E. D. SHURTER, State Chairman,
University, Austin.

I. *Eligibility.*—The contests shall be open to all undergraduate students in higher educational institutions in Texas that grant degrees or that are nominally colleges, and including the State Normal Schools; *provided*, that for the purpose of placing all contestants on an equal footing, no student shall be eligible who has received a degree from any of these institutions; and *provided further*, that each college entering a district contest shall first pay a fee of \$5.00 to the State Chairman. (The entrance fees, after deducting necessary expenses, will be added to the prize fund for the final contest of the State Peace Association.)

II. *General Plan of Organization.*—The general management of the contest shall be in the hands of an Executive Committee consisting of the Faculty Standing Committee on Forensics and Oratory at the University of Texas. For the preliminary contests, the State shall be divided into six districts. In the final contest, each district shall be entitled to one representative. The district contests shall be held not later than the last Saturday in March. The six winning contestants in the district contests will meet at the State University for the final contest on the fourth Friday in April.

III. *Orations—Length and Subjects.*—Each oration in both district and final contest shall be limited to fifteen minutes (about 1800 words) in length. In the Hogg contest the general theme of all the orations shall be: "*The Commonwelath's Need of the Services of Higher Education.*" Each contestant shall choose one of the following phases of the general subject:

TEXAS' NEED OF THE SERVICES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- 1.—in Agricultural Pursuits.
- 2.—in Manufacturing and Mining Industries.
- 3.—in the Utilization of Natural Resources. (Conservation of soil and forests, canals, irrigation, levees, railroads, etc.)
- 4.—in Commerce.
- 5.—in the Administration of Government and Voluntary Civic Enterprises.
- 6.—in the Administration of Justice.
- 7.—in Journalism.
- 8.—for the Preservation of Health and the Prevention and Cure of Disease.
- 9.—for the Preparation of Teachers. (Teachers of all sorts, including teachers of religion.)
- 10.—to Afford Its Own People Equal Opportunities with the Better Equipped Men from Other States.
- 11.—for the Elevation and Enrichment of Individual Life and Character.
- 12.—for the Increase of Knowledge (Research).

Other topics bearing on the general theme above stated may be used, provided the approval of the State Executive Committee is secured in advance.

The subject of each oration in the Texas Intercollegiate Peace Association shall be on some phase of the Peace Problem.

IV. *The Districts.*—For the preliminary contests the State has been divided into six districts, each in charge of a district director, as named below, with the towns named as district centers. Each contesting college or normal school shall belong in the district whose central town is nearest; *provided*, that the Executive Committee, for the purpose of effecting a more even and equitable distribution, may in its discretion assign a contesting college or school to a district otherwise than under the general rule. Subject to additions and transfers, the several colleges and normals shall be grouped by districts as follows:

1. AMARILLO.—*District Director:* Hon. Hilton R. Greer, Amarillo. *Schools and Colleges in District:* West Texas Normal College, Canyon; Clarendon College, Clarendon; Lockney Christian College, Lockney; Seth Ward College, Plainview; Wayland Baptist College, Plainview.

2. BROWNWOOD.—*District Director:* Professor Baxter Greer, Daniel Baker College, Brownwood. *Schools and Colleges in District:* Abilene Christian College, Abilene; Simmons College, Abilene; Reynolds Presbyterian College, Albany; Daniel Baker College, Brownwood; Howard Payne College, Brownwood; Midland

College, Midland; Stamford College, Stamford; John Tarlton College, Stephenville.

3. DALLAS.—*District Director*: W. B. Hamilton, Esq., Praetorian Building, Dallas. *Schools and Colleges in District*: Carlton College, Bonham; East Texas Normal College, Commerce; Dallas University, Dallas; Decatur Baptist College, Decatur; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth; Polytechnic College, Fort Worth; Granbury College, Granbury; Burleson College, Greenville; Wesley College, Greenville; Jacksonville College, Jacksonville; Alexander Collegiate Institute, Jacksonville; Presbyterian College, Leonard; Wiley University, Marshall; Texas Holiness University, Peniel; Austin College, Sherman; North Texas Normal College, Denton; North Texas College, Sherman; Christian College, Thorp Springs; Weatherford College, Weatherford; Grayson College, Whitewright.

4. WACO.—*District Director*: Professor T. S. Montgomery, High School, Waco. *Schools and Colleges in District*: Central Texas College, Blooming Grove; Clebarro College, Cleburne; Clifton Lutheran College, Clifton; Meridian College, Meridian; Westminster College, Tehuacana; Phillips University, Tyler; Baylor University, Waco; St. Basil's College, Waco; Trinity University, Waxahachie.

5. AUSTIN.—*District Director*: Professor E. D. Shurter, University Station, Austin. *Schools and Colleges in District*: Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin; St. Edward's College, Austin; University of Texas, Austin; St. Joseph's College, Brownsville; Southwestern University, Georgetown; Trinity College, Round Rock; Christian College, Sabinal; St. Louis College, San Antonio; St. Mary's College, San Antonio; Lutheran College, Seguin; Southwest Texas Normal School, San Marcos.

6. HOUSTON.—*District Director*: Hugh M. Potter, Esq., 205 First National Bank Building, Houston. *Schools and Colleges in District*: Agricultural and Mechanical College, College Station; Blinn Memorial College, Brenham; St. Thomas College, Houston; Rice Institute, Houston; Palacios Baptist College, Palacios; Sam Houston Normal, Huntsville.

V. *Selection of Representatives*.—Each college or normal school shall select by preliminary competition a representative from its student body; such representative must be a *bona fide* undergraduate student [see also Section I] in the institution which he represents. The representative from each contesting institution shall be chosen not later than the first Saturday in March.

VI. *Judging the Orations*.—In both the district and final contests the orations shall be graded both on subject matter and delivery, as provided in the next section, by a single committee

of judges consisting of five in number. The judges shall be chosen by the respective directors, subject to the approval of a majority of the contestants concerned.

VII. *District Contests.*—The district contests shall be held not later than the last Saturday in March. Unless otherwise arranged, each district contest shall be held at the district center. The order of speaking shall be determined by lot. Time-keepers shall be provided who shall ring a warning bell in case any speaker overruns the fifteen-minute limit, and such speaker shall conclude within one minute thereafter. The judges shall grade each speaker on both subject-matter and delivery, recording their judgment as to the merits of each oration in a single grade, on the basis of 100 per cent. At the close of the contest the District Director, or his representative, together with a representative of each of the speakers in the contest, shall tabulate the grades. The grades of each judge shall be ranked 1, 2, 3, etc. The speaker ranked first by a majority of the judges shall be awarded first place, or if none be thus ranked first, the speaker the sum of whose ranks is least shall be awarded first place. In case of a tie in ranking, the speaker receiving the highest average percentage grade shall be awarded first place. The second place shall be awarded in the same manner, the speaker ranked first not being considered. The speakers winning first and second places shall be, respectively, the district representative and the alternate in the final contest.

VIII. *The Final Contests.*—The final contests shall be held at the University of Texas on the fourth Friday in April. Contestants shall appear on the program in the order of the numbering of the districts, beginning with No. 1 (Amarillo) in 1914, and moving up one number each year thereafter. The rules of the final contest shall otherwise be the same as for the district contests, except that the first three ranking speakers shall be selected, and to those speakers who win first, second, and third places in the Hogg contest shall be awarded prizes in the sums of \$100.00, \$60.00, and \$40.00, respectively. To the school or college winning first place will also be awarded, for one year, a silver loving cup valued at \$50.00. In the Intercollegiate Peace contest, a prize or prizes will be awarded as may be later determined.

IX. *Duration of Offer of Prizes.*—The Hogg Organization offers the foregoing prizes for the contests of 1914 only. The Intercollegiate Peace prizes will be continued indefinitely.

X. *Publication of Orations.*—The organizations offering the prizes reserve the privilege of publishing, for general distribution, any or all of the orations submitted in the final contests.

